

Rockland Council on Aging

317 Plain Street

Rockland, Ma. 02370

Secretaries Report

October 19, 2016

With a quorum (at least 7) present **President John Rogers** called the meeting to order at 9:30.

Roll Call:

| | | | | | | |
|----------------|---|--------------|---|-------------|---|---|
| Lorraine Ahern | P | Rita Howes | P | Ed Malone | A | P |
| Jean Callahan | P | Chris Kelley | E | Agnes Smith | A | E |
| Cynda Childs | P | Audrey Ryan | P | | | |
| Eleanor Cole | P | Patti Penney | P | | | |
| Jack Conway | P | John Rogers | P | | | |
| Lu Crowley | P | | | | | |

At the start of the meeting a motion was made by Lorraine Ahern and 2nd by Eleanor Cole to take a vote to approve the selection of John Rogers to the position of President Rockland COA. The COA had previously voted John Rogers to the position of President. Rockland Selectmen approved the appointment at their monthly meeting.

Approval of Minutes from previous meeting / Secretaries Report: Motion made by Audrey Ryan to accept the secretaries report and seconded by Rita Howes.

Old Colony Elder Services: Agnes Smith – No Report excused

Old Colony Planning Council: Rita Howes – Reported that next meeting is in January 2017

- A needs assessment survey is available and Rita would appreciate if everyone would fill it out and returned it to her by December 31, 2016

Financial Report: A motion was made by Lorraine Ahern to accept the report as read, seconded by Eleanor Cole - the vote was unanimous. Current balance: \$ 44,284.23. (There is \$ 5,613.08 left in the contracts service account as well as \$4,669.78 left in the Utilities account).

Warrant Report: The Bill Warrant was duly signed by all members' present.

Outreach Report: A motion was made by Lu Crowley and seconded by Rita Howes to accept the report.

- Regional Director of Shine visited the center on October 19, 2016 to explain the new changes in Medicare for 2017.
- Starting November 1, 2016 applications will be accepted for those requesting fuel assistance. The schedule is listed below and is in effect until the end of April 2017.
 - Monday - Wednesday mornings from 10:00 – 11:30 AM
 - Monday – Wednesday afternoons from 1:30 – 3:00 PM
- On October 18, 2016 Joshua Singer, a Financial Advisor was at the center to discuss how to outsmart a scammer. He discussed the rising trend of fraud and scams especially with the new technology.
- A bereavement Group will start in January and will run for 6 weeks. A licensed social worker from Beacon Hospice will be the speaker.
- The Pen-Pal Program will run again this year in conjunction with the fourth grade at the Memorial Park School.
- Wheels on Meals substitute drivers are needed for the winter months.

Blood Pressure clinic will be on the first and fourth Thursdays of the month from 10:00 – 11:00 AM.

Directors Report

- We had a guest speaker – Superintendent of Rockland Schools Allen Cron. Allen discussed the Question on the November Ballot for Charter Schools. Currently Rockland has 94 students who attend Charter Schools. Superintendent Cron advised that he had visited the Charter School in Norwell and in his opinion the Rockland Schools were exceeding their goals of improvement in all areas. Allen also mentioned the Rockland Drama Club and the possibility of the club putting on a “Skit” for the seniors. He also mentioned that many students will be volunteering this year for community service and discussed the process for requesting student help with projects.

- The Superintendent has agreed to open 2 schools during the winter months for “Pickle Ball” with the players paying any additional fees for janitors etc. (No cost to the Town)
- Director Peggy discussed the Tax Work Off Program
- The Holiday Tea put on by the COA is scheduled for December 2, 2016. We are expecting to have sandwiches, music by “Old Kids on the Block” as well as tea and dessert.
- Director Peggy is working on assessing the cost of a new van for the Rockland Senior Center and what the possible trade in value might be on the current van.
- There was discussion about future fundraising for the “Meals on Wheels Program” to cover the deficit.
- October 22 from 10:00AM -2:00PM there will be a craft fair at the center.

It is with tremendous regret that we report the death of Angie Keller, a longtime advocate and supporter of the senior center. A moment of silence was observed.

With no further business, a motion was made by Lorraine Ahern and seconded by Lu Crowley to adjourn the meeting at 10:15.

Next meeting November 16, 2016 @ 9:30 AM

Respectfully Submitted,

Lorraine Ahern
Secretary COA

October 19, 2016